

# BENT RIM BUGLE



Bent Rim Bugle Published For the Michigan Mountain Biking Association

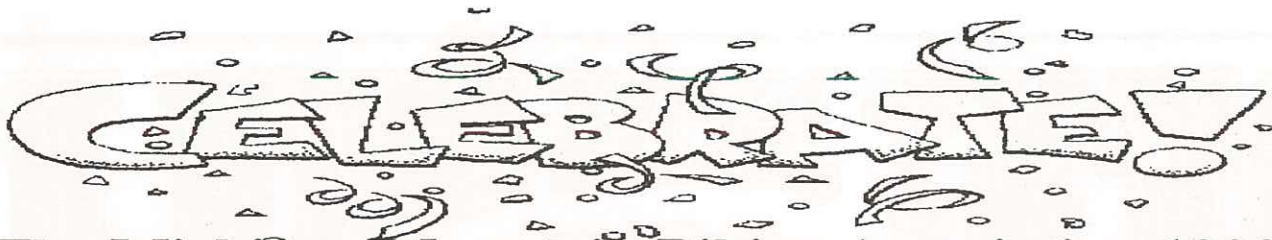
Vol. 11 No. 3

1998 Annual Meeting

**MMBA**  
MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION







# The Michigan Mountain Biking Association 1998 Annual Meeting

**Sunday, February 1**

Springfield Oaks  
(Davisburg, Michigan)

The Annual Meeting With That Special Ingredient:  
Something For Everybody!

## The Blizzard Blaster Fun Ride

**9:00am**

(Pontiac Lake Recreation Area)

Doors Open At Springfield Oaks at 10:00am

## Indoor Mini-Time Trial

**Tailwind Enterprises/MMBA Benefit Event**

Join in on the fun anytime from 10:00am to 2:00pm!

Call: 248-634-6178

## 1st Annual MMBA Winter Race

**Piranha Productions/MMBA Benefit Event**

Start Time 11:00am (Registration 9:00am to 10:30am)

Call: 248-623-6754

-Parts/Bike Swap (buy sell trade)

-Chapter Booths/DNR Trail Info/National Forest Trail Info/Race Promoter Info/Bike Shop/Manufacturer Representatives/Displays...etc.

-Food and Drink

-Prize Giveaways

**2:00pm**

## MMBA 1997 Annual Meeting

Guest Speaker

World Champion Endurance Competitor, **John Stamstad**

Team Chevy ZR2/Trebron Racers

Also Honoring

Junior Cross Country World Champion, **Cecilia Potts**

Cross Country World/National Champion, **Art Fleming**

**MMBA 1997 Championship Points Series Awards**

**MMBA 1997 First Across The Finish Line Volunteer Awards**

Winner of the **TREK USA Sponsorship/Factory Tour Award**

4:30 Adjournment



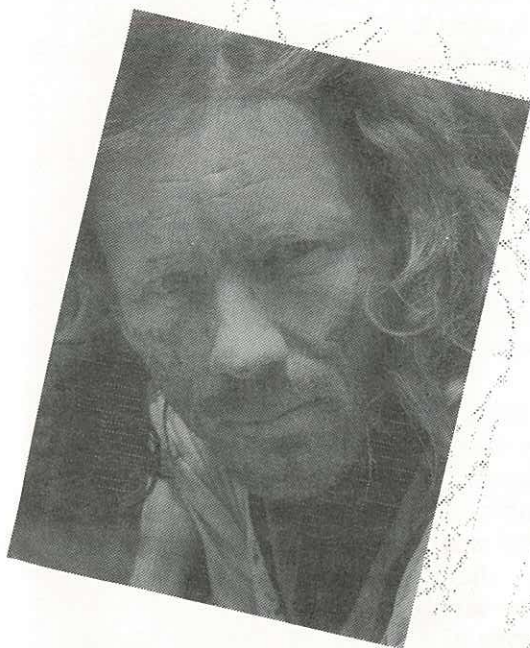
4-19-98	YANKEE SPRINGS
5-03-98	FORT CUSTER STAMPEDE
5-17-98	ADDISON OAKS
6-07-98	OWASIPPI
6-14-98	PONTIAC LK. X- COUNTRY
6-21-98	KEWEENAW CHAIN DRIVE
7-12-98	BLOOMER
7-26-98	PONTIAC LK.TIME TRIAL
8-16-98	BIG M
9-06-98	OWASIPPI
9-20-98	ADDISON OAKS
9-27-98	FORT CUSTER
10-18-98	GARLAND
10-25-98	CANNONSBURG

Tentative Schedule/Final Schedule will be available at the annual meeting.





## 1998 MMBA Annual Meeting Special Guests



**Cecilia M. Potts**

17 yrs. old from Grand Haven, MI  
Cecilia began her success story riding in  
local Michigan races a few years ago,  
moved on up:

**1997**

•**Jr. Woman World Mountain Bike  
Championship**

in Chateau D'Oex, Switzerland  
(Photo Courtesy of Tom Moran)

**1997**

•**MMBA Championship Points Series**

1st Expert Woman  
**1997**

•**NORBA National Series**

Jr. Woman USA National  
Championship in Park, City UT



**John Stamstad**

31 yrs.old Cincinnati, OH

**1997**

**1st Iditasport Extreme**

**1st 24 Hours of Canaan**

**1st 24 Hours of Adrenaline**

History

1st Iditasport 1993 (course Record), 94, 95, 96

1st Leadville Trail 100 1994

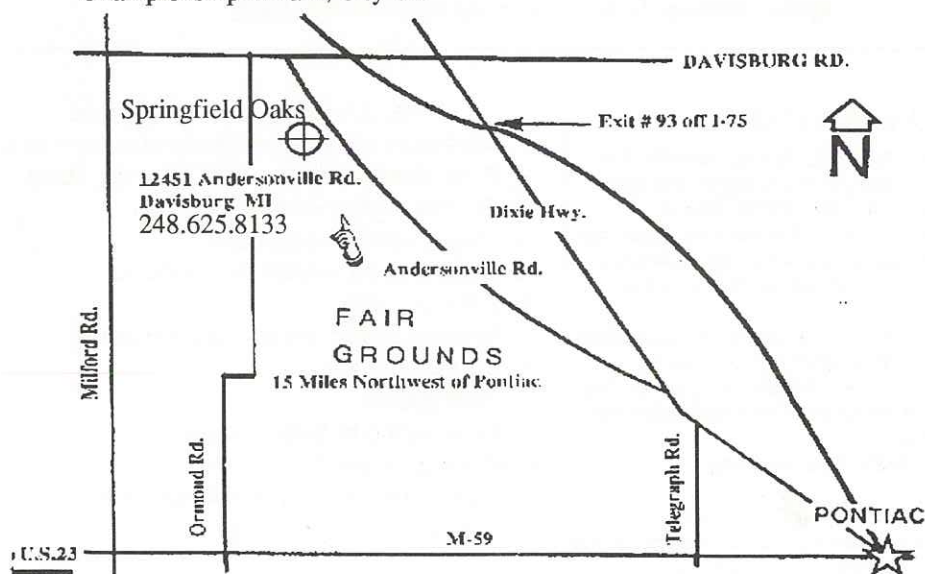
1st Wilderness 101 1993

1st Montezuma's Revenge 1991 (Course Record)

1st 24 Hours of Canaan 1996

1st Montezuma's Revenge 1995 (Course Record)

1st 24 Hours of Adrenaline 1995 (Course Record)



**Art Fleming**

Rochester Hills, MI

**1997**

•**Grand Masters Champion**

NORBA National Series

in Park City, UT

**1997**

•**1st Men Expert 45-54**

MMBA Championship Points Series

**1996**

•**World Challenge Winner**

World Mountain Bike Championship

Men 50 years +  
in Cairns, Australia





**Publication Director**  
Dwain Abramowski  
**Editorial Assistance**

Christina - As always thank you

**Contributing Writers/Editors**

Lisa Lazaroff, Emil Sims, Todd Dewell,

Jason Jones, Ric Castleman, Mike

Needham, Chad Allen, John Yoder,

Gordon Allen, Wendy Timmons

**Land Managers Column**

Fred Tyszka, MDNR

**Special Thanks To**

Castelli Publications/

Michigan Cyclist

**Support/Support and More**

**Support: Christina**

**Cover: Dan Clark**

**Contributing**

**Photographers/Graphics**

The major mountain biking

art dude - Dan Clark

Tom Moran, Dwain A., L. Lazaroff

**Music Provided by**

Paul Simon/Green Day/

Tim Chesla, LV Neon

**Materials Provided By**

Mother Nature -

Use them wisely

This mag. is printed

on recycled paper

**"There's a price to pay for living**

**Large..." Jason Jones**

**4217 Highland Rd #268**

**Waterford, MI 48328**

**Ex. Dir./Bent Rim Bugle (BRB)**

**P.O. Box 29 Belmont MI 49306**

**Phone: 616.785.0120**

**Fax: 616.785.1940 (new number)**

**e-mail: gommmba@aol.com**

**web: www.mmmba.org**

**MMBA Listserv: mmmba@cyclimg.org**

## "Survey Says!"

Hello. My name is Wendy Timmons. I am a senior at the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment studying Environmental Psychology. I have chosen this course of study in the hopes of coming to a greater understanding of how people interact with their environment and the roles that people play in the environmental problems we face today.

For my senior honors thesis, I have chosen to look at the relationship between people and nature with a 4 page survey that asks people about the relationship between their outdoor adventure (such as mountain biking or rock climbing) experiences in nature and their everyday life. It takes only a few minutes to complete it and return it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope I provide in each survey packet.

I would greatly appreciate the participation of the Michigan Mountain Biking Association in my study. Your MMBA Board of Trustees, has allowed me to have access to the MMBA mailing list.

Therefore, all MMBA members will receive a survey in the mail within the next few weeks. The way things usually work is that I ask participants to fill out the survey after participating in a challenging experience (i.e. going on a ride). The survey asks questions about people's experiences outdoors, the type of outdoor activities they like to participate in, and how things have been going lately in general.

No personal information is asked and participation is completely voluntary. All participants are welcome to the results of my study and can indicate their desire to learn about the results by putting their name on the back of their survey. Feel free to contact me via phone or email with any questions. My email is wtimmmons@umich.edu and my phone number is: 313.913.8766.

Thank you.

Wendy Timmons

University of Michigan

School of Natural Resources and Environment

Honors BS Candidate in Environmental Psychology

email: wtimmmons@umich.edu

phone: 313.913.8766

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**Cover by Dan Clark:** The cover will be available as limited edition cool three-color T-shirt at this year's 1998 annual meeting. To pre-order yours call 616-785-0120.

## BENT RIM BUGLE PUBLISHING INFO

The Bent Rim Bugle (BRB) is published 4 times a year (quarterly) Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. The BRB is the source for news and information for the Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA). Articles come from MMBA members, MMBA Chapter Presidents, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and other sources. The focus of the BRB is on what is of interest to MMBA members as well as education on environmental issues, land access, mountain biking events, rides, competition, fun and other activities and information related to the mountain biking.

Editorial contributions and photos are welcomed, but cannot be returned unless accompanied by proper postage. Send contributions to: **MMBA/BRB P.O. Box 29, Belmont MI 49306**. The BRB also can provide classified ads to MMBA members for free and advertising space to shops and manufacturers. **For deadlines and rates contact the address above or call, (616) 785-0120 or AOL E-Mail:**

**Go MMBA@aol.com. (Net: Go\_MMBA@aol.com) MMBA Web site: http://**

**www.mmmba.org.**

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the MMBA, Publisher, and/or MMBA members, Dealers, or Sponsors. In other words, lighten-up it's mountain biking not world hunger... Copyright, Nov./Dec. 1997, all rights reserved...Ya-sure-you-bet-cha....

## MMBA Responsibility Code

1. Always yield the right of way to other trail users.
2. Slow down and pass with care (or stop).
3. Control your speed at all times.
4. Stay on designated trails.
5. Don't disturb wildlife or livestock.
6. Pack out litter.
7. Respect public and private property.
8. Know local rules.
9. Plan ahead.
10. Avoid riding in large groups.
11. Minimize impact.
12. Report incidents of trail impasse to local park authorities.





ANNUAL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 1, 1998



SPRINGFIELD OAKS  
ACTIVITIES CENTER

Presents the Second Annual

## ***For-Fun Indoor Mini-Time Trial***

**Come try your hand (er your legs) at riding 2-miles  
indoors at the MMBA Annual Meeting**

You say it must be a pretty big building, 'eh...well, the ride is on rollers with a forkstand so you don't really go anywhere, and you can't fall either! Come give it a try, just for FUN!

**Fastest Male and Fastest Female each win an MMBA Logo Cap!**

**Cost is a mere \$3 which goes directly to the MMBA**

For information on other Tailwind events stop by our rollers at the Annual MMBA Meeting  
Web-site: [www.rust.net/~atumper](http://www.rust.net/~atumper) e-mail: [tailwind@tir.com](mailto:tailwind@tir.com) Robert Linden: 248/634-6178

## **1st Annual MMBA Winter Race**

Registration:  
9:00am to 10:30am

Start Time:  
Elite/Expert Classes 11:00am  
Sport & Beginner at 2-minute  
intervals

Springfield Oaks  
Activities Center  
12451 Anderson Road  
Davisburg, MI  
"non points"  
Piranha Productions  
More info contact  
248-623-6754

Awards: Top 5 in each class  
\$150 Purse Elite/Expert Men  
\$75 Purse Expert/Sport Woman  
Preregister: \*\$16.00  
Day of Event: \*\$20.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Male: \_\_\_\_\_ Female: \_\_\_\_\_ Team/Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

- |  |  |                                     |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Expert/Sport Women (all ages) | <input type="checkbox"/> Elite/Expert Men (all ages) | Preregister: \$16.00                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner Women (all ages)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Men 18 & under        | Day of Event: \$20.00               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner Men 18 & under       | <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Men 19-29             | Amount Enclosed: _____              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner Men 19-29            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Men 30-39             | *\$2 From each registration goes to |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner Men 30-39            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Men 40+               | the local chapters of the MMBA      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner Men 40+              |  |                                     |

To Preregister send entry and money to: Piranha Productions P.O. Box 290244 Waterford, MI 48329-0244





# MMBA

MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION

## Chapter Chatter

Here are a few things your chapter needs from you!

- When you're out on the trail keep your eyes open. Be aware of what is going on in the forest both on the trail and off. If you find something that needs attention such as a downed tree, someone dumping trash in your woods, or you spot wildlife that may be rare for your area, whatever it is...report it to the land manager of the area. Your manager has lots to do, and you can help because you are out on the trail a lot more than he or she can ever be. Ride on the trails, but be aware of the forest around you.

- Ric Castleman, Western MMBA member went out to Colorado this past fall and attended the International Mountain Biking Patrol Program (see Western Chapter Chatter).

He has been trained to train others for the program. Ric has volunteered to help organize the patrol on a statewide basis. He is seeking members from each chapter to share what he has learned and put it to good use. The patrol will have no enforcement authority, but will act as goodwill ambassadors out on the trail.

You can be one of the few, the proud and cool! Call Ric today and see how you can get involved with this noble and down right fun project: 616.948.9089.

- Your MMBA Board of Trustees is currently crafting an extensive business plan for the MMBA operations, activities and goals. Your help is needed. Your chapter president has the current draft of

the plan for your input. Contact them and get brought up to date on how the MMBA will be run to meet your needs. There are ways you can get involved in

the MMBA Championship Points Series, MMBA First Across The Finish Line Volunteer Awards, MMBA Recreational Events, MMBA Mountain Bike Patrol, MMBA Kids On Bikes Program and much more and they all include riding as part of the requirements!

Just ask your chapter president how you can get in on the fun and growth of the MMBA!

- Did you volunteer to help with trail care this past year? If so, THANKS! Do you know someone who helped, but they are not yet an MMBA member? Thank them for all of us. Also tell them if they'd like to find out about next year's trail care schedule to call the MMBA at 616.785.0120 and we'll keep them informed.

- Thank you to the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) and Paul McKenzie at Kali's SportNatural's for keeping the MMBA supplied with Clif Bars for trail care activities this past season! If you'd like to thank them personally here are their addresses:

Paul McKenzie  
Kali's SportNatural's  
1610 5th St.  
Berkeley, CA 94710  
and  
IMBA

P.O. Box 7578  
Boulder, CO 80306

- "I think we should all keep in mind that, we're not building trails, but building experiences when we do trail maintenance..."  
Bob Searns/Jeanne Patterson  
Dallas Off Road Bicycle Associa-

tion - To that one could add, "We're building adventures of a lifetime!"

- There is a rumor that some bike shops are starting a program to get all those who ride mountain bikes to be represented through the only organization that is working solely on their behalf in Michigan, the MMBA.

It is rumored that at these select bike shops, if you become a member and get a member to join the MMBA - you both can come into the shop and enter a raffle for 98. The winner will receive a cool mt. bike steed for the joy of riding. If you know of a shop doing this contact the MMBA and we'll let everyone know who it is....

- Grants Available for Bike Month (BRIN) - The League of American Bicyclists is offering mini-grants to help cycling organization promote Bike Month and Bike-to-Work Day this spring. The League will help local and state League-affiliated clubs or organizations start or expand Bike Month activities. The 15 grants, \$500 apiece, are available through a grant the League received from the Environmental Protection Agency.

Grant winners will be chosen based on the number of people their promotions will reach, their effectiveness in persuading people to use their bicycles, as well as their innovation, creativity and impact of their planned promotion. Applications must be postmarked by Dec. 31. For more information call 202.822.1333.

- Address Change:  
League of American Bicyclists  
1612 K Street, NW, Suite #401  
Washington, DC 20006  
202.822.1333/f 202.822.1334  
BikeLeague@aol.com  
www.bikeleague.org

(cc contin. next pg.)



## Marathon & Half Marathon

**SUNDAY APRIL 26th**

**THE COURSE** - The races are run on a 13.1 mile loop of the **Potawatomi Trail**. The mile marks are not accurate and the course is hilly and long. If this bothers you, perhaps you would be better off running a on a track. **No wimps need apply!**

**RACE MEETING AND CAMPFIRE**  
7:30 pm Saturday night at Crooked Lake Campground. Meeting is not mandatory but it should be! Every year we talk it up and the same 40 people show up for the free beer. (We won't list your names.) Running trivia & tall tales contest is often ridiculous.

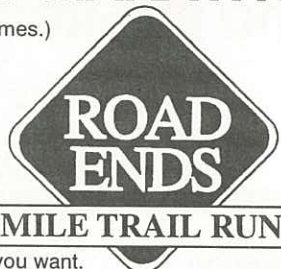
**GET SOME OFFICIAL TRAIL MARATHON APPAREL**  
so that you can impress the wimps! SS T-shirts \$8, LS T-shirts \$12 Sweat-shirts \$22, Golf-shirts \$22.

**RACE FEES FOR BOTH RACES** - \$15.00 early, \$20.00 after April 25. Does not include a T-shirt.

**ACCOMMODATIONS** - Rustic camping at Crooked Lake - All the cool people camp, but stay where you want.



## TRAIL MARATHON & HALF MARATHON &



## Road Ends 5 Mile Trail Run

**SATURDAY APRIL 25th**

**THE COURSE** - Flat, fast accurate certified course. Ha!... How about hilly and a lot longer than the advertised 5 miles. Takes in Silver Lake Trail & the longest hill on Potto! **Go trail or go home!**

**ENTRY FEE:** \$8, prior to 4/20. T-shirt \$8. Late entry \$10.

**new balance**   
**Makin' Serious Trail Shoes for Serious Trails!**

**FOR AN ENTRY FORM CALL**

Running Fit at 313-769-5016 OR  
FIND IT ONLINE AT  
<http://www.apin.com/runfit>

**"ROAD"**  
**IS A FOUR LETTER WORD**

### •Positions Available At League Of American Bicyclists

The League of American Bicyclists has announced job openings for several staff positions including: Director of Government Relations, Government Relations Coordinator and Front Desk/Staff Assistant. The non-profit membership organization seeks to promote the versatility of bicycling as a means to fun, fitness and transportation, and recently transferred offices from Baltimore to downtown Washington DC. To apply, submit cover letter and resume by fax to: 202.822.1334, or mail to: League of American Bicyclists, 1612 K Street NW, #401, Washington DC, 20006.

## Potawatomi Chapter

### New Mountain Bike Trails In Ann Arbor

A few years ago, the city of

Ann Arbor closed a few of its parks to biking: The Arboretum, Bird Hills, and later, Argo Trail. However, they realized the dissatisfaction that this caused the biking community and in response set up a Mountain Bike Task Force. The task force was to decide if mountain biking was a legitimate recreation, and if so, how the city should include it in its park development plans. The task force included members of the Michigan Mountain Biking Association, the Sierra Club, and Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. The task force quickly concluded that mountain biking is a legitimate activity, it is here to stay and, therefore, trails should be provided. The first of these trails is complete and now open to biking.

The trail is in the newly acquired Northeast Park. Future plans for the park include a soccer field and a driving range, but currently, it is an undeveloped piece of land with a small pond and approximately 3 miles of

freshly cut trail. Half of the distance is out in the open and another half cuts through the woods on the east side of the property. The park is just north of the Leslie Park Golf Course on the Northeast corner of Pontiac Trail and Dhu Varren. Although 3 miles of trail may not be an exceptional distance, the trail ties in well with the singletrack that crosses Pontiac Trail (between Barton Drive and Dhu Varren) and heads west, going under M-14.

Big thanks go to Norm Roller who designed and led the cutting of this trail. Norm is an active member of the Sierra Club, Ann Arbor Ski Club and the Poto Chapter of the MMBA. He is an avid cross-country skier and often advocates keeping this sport in mind when new mountain bike trails are being designed.

Additional new (official) trails in Ann Arbor are currently being thought out. We will keep you posted!

(cc cont. on pg. 18)



# Thank You!

Thank you Trek and all the Trek dealers throughout the state for your support of the Michigan Mountain Biking Association Championship Points Series for 1997. Your support of the enthusiastic races in Michigan and around the region has made the MMBA Championship Points Series one of the strongest in the country, as well as enhancing the entire MMBA program of mountain bike riding, racing and trail care.

## TREK

### And the Trek Dealers of Michigan!

**Dan's Bike & Lock - Ionia**  
616-527-0471  
**Breakaway Bicycles of Kalamazoo**  
616-349-5555  
**Breakaway Bicycles of Muskegon**  
616-759-0001  
**Breakaway Bicycles of Grand Haven**  
616-844-1199  
**Chelsea Bike & Sport - Chelsea**  
313-475-9371  
**Kentwood Schwinn - Kentwood**  
616-942-1880  
**Chicago Drive Schwinn - Grandville**  
616-531-9911  
**Motorless Motion - Mount Pleasant**  
517-772-2008  
**On Two Wheels - Jackson**  
517-789-6077  
**Puck & Pedal - Lansing**  
517-332-6677  
**Campus Bike & Toy - Ann Arbor**  
313-662-0035  
**Bike Haus - Brighton**  
810-227-5070  
**Washtenaw Cycle - Ann Arbor**  
313-971-2121  
**Wheels in Motion - Fenton**  
810-629-0969  
**Main Street Bicycle - Romeo**  
810-336-1117  
**The Speed Merchants - Rockford**  
616-866-2226  
**Velocipede Peddler - East Lansing**  
517-351-7240  
**Cycle & Fitness USA - Walled Lake**  
810-960-1371  
**Pavlat's Cycle & Fitness - Royal Oak**  
810-542-7182  
**Pointe Cycle & Fitness - Grosse Pointe**  
313-886-1968

**Bill's Bike - Harper Woods**  
810-294-3888  
**Assenmacher's Cycle & Fitness - Swartz Creek**  
810-635-7844  
**Assenmacher's Cycle & Fitness - Flint**  
810-743-8870  
**Bike USA - Troy**  
810-646-7565  
**Bike USA - Bloomfield**  
810-680-1777  
**Denny's Cycle & Fitness - East Lansing**  
517-351-2001  
**Denny's Cycle & Fitness - Lansing**  
517-321-5700  
**Central Park Bicycle - Okemos**  
517-349-8880  
**Prestige Cycle - Clinton Township**  
810-792-4040  
**Kinetic Systems - Clarkston**  
810-625-7000  
**Tom Nell LTD - Waterford**  
810-682-5456  
**The Highwheeler - Holland**  
616-396-6084  
**The Highwheeler - Grand Rapids**  
616-365-2453  
**D & D Bicycles - Berkley**  
313-547-0770  
**Farmington Hills**  
810-851-5588  
**Northville**  
313-347-1511  
**Westland**  
313-522-9410  
**Dearborn**  
313-565-4600  
**Waterford**  
810-666-8884  
**Port Huron**  
810-385-1313



# Greetings from the Points Series' Office!

These are the final results for the MMBA Championship Points Series. Thank you to Gordon Allen and the MMBA Championship Points Series Committee for coordinating this awesome task. Thank you to Trek USA for their support for the MMBA Championship Points Series in 1997 and for past years!

If you have questions or concerns about the results please contact Gordy Allen at (before the annual meeting!):  
MMBA Championship Points Series  
C/O Gordon Allen  
601 South Shore Dr.  
Suite 121  
Battle Creek, MI 49015  
e-mail: glallen@net-link.net  
Connect through the Web:  
[www.mmba.org](http://www.mmba.org)

Sport	Women 29	Total
Rank	Name	Points
1	Collins, Karey	508
2	Kanipe, Jennifer	464
3	Pasma, Amy M.	374
4	Rodgers, Annmarie	250
5	Cervelli, Stephanie	177
6	Roycraft, Kimberly	83

Sport	Women 30+	Total
Rank	Name	Points
1	Montrose, Shari	505
2	Bonnell, Aileen	501
3	Vernon, Sally	419
4	Samson, Julianne	374
5	Stanley, Kathy	334
6	Van Osdol, Amy	314
7	Heidmou, Tanya	224
8	Jarski, Lauri	164
9	Amundson-Weighman, J.	150
10	Needham, Cathy	52
11	Cockrell, Sara	6

Sport	Junior -14	Total
Rank	Name	Points
1	Woodard, Jeremy	489

2	Costas, David	56
Sport	Junior 15-18	Total
Rank	Name	Points
1	Hendershot, Jorel	565
2	Boynton, Joel	516
3	Williams, Brian	442
4	Tornga, Shawn	421
5	Scheid, Jason	408
6	Reddy, Joey	355
7	Krueger, Trevor	352
8	Ward, Jessie	340
9	Bowman, Dan	337
10	Philips, Ben	336
11	Ray, Nathan	324
12	Caso, Carl	306
13	Murton, Thomas A.	262
14	Markiewicz, Nick	235
15	Coppens, Dan	216
16	Tyler, James	198
17	Schut, Ryan	163
18	Hassebrock, David	157
19	Weighous, Christopher	145
20	Steinmacher, Lance	129
21	Maxwell, Jordan	111
22	Korf, Jay	86
23	Owens, Zack	73
24	Connell, Bill	57
25	Wenberg, Andy	43
26	Mertz, Don	38
27	McAleenan, Chris	28

Sport	Senior I 19-24	Total
Rank	Name	Points
1	Budnik, Ken	511
2	Karew, Jason	492
3	Sweeney, David	487
4	Budacki, Joel	457
5	Matyniak, Brian	392
6	Morgan, Brad	388
7	Spezia, Anthony	377
8	Martello, Justin	339
9	Walker, Jeremy	335
10	Martin, Nathan	271
12	Collins, Keith	253
13	Eves, Eric J.	251
14	Henry, Erin M.	228
15	Bell, Michael	209
16	Steffey, Jakob	205
17	Hamilton, Nathan	178
18	Misavage, Tim	147
19	Lucas, Shane	114
19	Omland, Forrest M.	114
21	Schutz, Timothy	102
21	Slough, Adam	102

23	Williams, Stephen J.	91
24	Patton, Jeffrey	70
25	Hatton, Jason	65
26	Dorsch, Jeff	45
27	Lubbers, Chance	30
28	Flesher, Ryan C.	14

Sport	Senior II 25-29	Total
Rank	Name	Points
1	Flores, Randy A.	587
2	Walker, Charlie	575
3	Olson, Mark	542
4	Gabbert, Terry	481
5	Hersberger, Tony	476
6	Liddy, David	459
6	Villanueva, Miguel	459
8	Jones, Jason Aric	455
9	Phillips, Brent	402
10	Sieting, Todd	389
11	Taylor, Joe	355
12	Eltzschlager, Timothy M.	315
13	Jackson, Mark	304
14	Hefferman, Bill	303
15	Insley, Steve	279
16	Manuel, Jay	253
17	Bielman, Patrick	238
18	Tischer, Fred	215
19	McCandless, Alex M.	197
20	Viaene, Jeffery C.	190
21	Smallwood, Hugh	180
22	Napieralski, Mike	177
23	Gratop, Ronald A.	169
24	Kotchi, Kevin J.	169
25	Storen, John W.	148
26	Wehrmeyer, Mat	142
27	Adamski, Shawn	138
28	Buck, Brian	133
29	Munson, Kurt L.	122
30	Van Veele, Kevin L.	110
31	Kyle, Dave	103
32	Szot, Michael E.	93
33	Murphy, Chad	79
34	Ferguson, Keith M.	78
35	Zmich, Jeffrey M.	75
36	Kline, Ryan	62
37	Bailey, Doug	43
38	Hillard, Adam C.	38
39	Pierce, Brandon	31
40	Hurley, Chip	29
41	Darr, Jeffrey M.	27
42	Zacharek, Daniel D.	26
43	Daniel, Jeff	19

Sport	Senior III 30-34	Total
Rank	Name	Points
1	Collins, Timothy	624
2	Noonan, Rick	559
3	Moser, Travis	506
4	Wunderlin, John	505
5	Ritter, Terry T.	492
6	Bicknell, Rick	482
7	Schneider, Joel	372
8	Angell, Mike	370




(p.s. cont. from last page)

9 Liddy, Jon	353	33 Glaspie, John	123	4 Camp, Kevin	773	Expert Vet 35-44	Total
10 Balog, Vince	344	34 Trevarrow Jr., James F.	113	5 McCracken, Matt	743	Rank Name Points	
11 Rogers, M.	326	35 Kelly, John P.	86	6 Holmes, William	730	1 James, Jim	983
12 Ward, M.	304	36 Jankowiak, Matt	80	7 Hills, Steve	479	2 Daly, Matt	975
13 Watson, R..	283	37 Stanley, William	50	8 Cariano, Tom	438	3 Wojtala, John	954
14 Goblirsch, J.	264	38 Petts, Kevin	42	9 Walp, Matthew	424	4 Hollis, Dave	772
15 Wagner, Neil	239	39 Nugent, Tom	41	10 Patton, Jeff	287	5 Gilliam, Mark A.	750
16 Stevens, E. C.	195	40 Lehr, Pat	35	11 Maier, Jeff	165	6 Martin, James P.	613
17 Robinson, M.	193	41 Watson, David	33	12 Mohler, Josh	146	7 Roe, Gordon	571
18 Tyrrell, Shawn	183	42 Jones, Jay L.	32	13 Pike-Bieganski, M.	134	8 Riege, Keith	525
19 Willis, Scott T.	167	43 Connell, Jim	28	14 Sytniak, John	79	9 Cornell, Douglas	508
20 Hamzik, G. E.	151	44 Zoet, Mark A.	25	15 Isaacs, Ryan	67	10 Herriman, Robert	471
21 Sears, Pat R.	136			16 Daab, Zachary C.	60	11 O'Day, Ken	379
22 Pratt, Anthony	134	Sport Master 45-54	Total	9 Matthew Walp	0	12 Heady, Douglas	356
23 Heidmous, M.	123	Rank Name Points				13 Farnsworth, Terry	317
24 Fleury, A. D.	122	1 Watt, Wesley	530	Expert Senior II 25-29	Total	14 Jurvelin, D J	308
25 Hall, Mat. K.	100	2 Massey, Dennis	474	Rank Name Points		15 Kellum, Glen	305
26 Faber, Joe C.	92	3 Molloseau, Gary R.	471	1 Parker, Jamie	1069	16 Roth, Frank	241
27 Gleeson, John	76	4 Leale, David	441	2 Farmer, Bryan	936	17 Tripp, Lewis	232
28 Brown, M. R.	62	5 Needham, Michael J.	429	3 Dougherty, Jason	910	18 Wooldridge, Stephen	176
29 Barker, Mark	44	6 Allen, Gordon	349	4 Cranston, Joe	876	19 Steurer, Scott	151
30 Kreager, Alan	41	7 Kihlstrand, Terry	296	5 Gardulski, Mike	778	20 Jones, Mike	149
31 Tribby, E. R.	34	8 Fairbanks, Randy	208	6 Foshag, Robert	676	21 Walk, Brent	120
32 Ruys, Ted G.	33	9 Wenberg, Jim	132	7 Sahaydak, Martin	605	22 Fedrigon Jr., Don	7
33 Bremer, Greg	31	10 Rodge, Richard	97	8 Neeley, Brian	564		
34 Johnson, Bruce	27	11 Cordella, Reinhold	54	9 Cole, Mark D.	561	Expert Master 45+	Total
35 Scurr, Robin	26	12 Estes, Randy	46	10 Losey, Tod	537	Rank Name Points	
36 Morris, Jeffrey	11	13 Cali, Jim	39	11 Williams, Doug	514	1 Fleming, Art	1003
		14 Goddard, Jeremy	35	12 Trout, Paul	364	2 Camp, Don	906
Sport Vet 35-44	Total	15 Hendershot, Ronn	6	13 Maes, Jim	355	3 Eddy, Ken	878
Rank Name Points				14 Wissink, Michael	320	4 Ward, David E.	868
1 Hahn, Tom	664	Sport Grand Master 55+	Total	15 York, Jeffrey	276	5 Alderson, Randy	745
2 Gruber, Paul G	547	Rank Name Points		16 Gellert, Rich	271	6 Smigiel, Steve	594
3 Jones, Danny	546	1 Greening, Tim	502	17 Helzerman, Gary	234	7 Grondin, Paul	167
4 Gosen, Dan	521	2 Jones, Thomas N.	353	18 Ward, James	232		
5 Roerig, Scott	518	3 Vandecar, Denny	322	19 Cline, Chris	195	Elite Men	Total
6 Hickman, D.	496	4 Pettigrove, Dave	281	20 Kaczmarek, Brian T.	153	Rank Name Points	
7 Vernon, Randy	481	5 Nell, Tom	222	21 Ridley, Matt	140	1 Quiring, Scott W.	1981
8 Lindhout, Bill	436	6 Rice, Lavern A.	153	22 Klop, Jeremy	133	2 Meyers, John	1870
9 Rosinski, M. A.	400			23 Tingley, Michael	119	3 Weinert, Jeff	1864
10 Geerligs, T. L.	399	Sport Tandem	Total	24 Couch, Dave	73	4 Gillespie, Dan	1496
11 Martin, J. A.	397	Rank Name Points		25 Cameron, Jason	39	5 Blume, Robert B.	1233
12 Mulders, Rick	395	1 Scurr, Robin	243			6 Morin, Nick	1211
13 Botens, W.	394			Expert Senior III 30-34	Total	7 Finkbeiner, Max	1200
14 Dock, Charles	377	Expert Women - All	Total	Rank Name Points		8 Caron, Brian	1175
15 Myczkowiak, J.	346	Rank Name Points		1 Anderson, Jon D.	988	9 Tramontini, Mike	1148
16 McClelland, K.	343	1 Potts, Cecilai M.	1013	2 Grieve, Karl	933	10 Carrigan, Brian	1146
17 Johnson, Nick	241	2 Lusk, Kelli	956	3 Scott, Todd	841	11 Cameron, Don	1054
18 Kowalczyk, J.	236	3 Wilson, Shelly L.	900	4 Quist, Jack W.	769	12 Erspamer, Darren	896
19 Weiss, Jerry	234	4 O'Day, Betsy	865	5 Kosik, Dale	692	13 Johnson, Curt	891
19 Zielinski, T. J.	234	5 Hausbeck, Shari	842	6 Kuiper, Rick	675	14 Booth, Roger	807
21 Reddy, Joe	231	6 Pederson, Lesli	664	7 Jeffrey, Christopher	657	15 Johnson, Marty	652
22 Topolinski, S.	229	7 Sahaydak, Tonja	636	8 Maddalena, Brian	569	16 Gietzen, Craig	554
23 Rowan, R. B.	184	8 Martin, Linda	618	9 Laroe, Kevin	474	17 Hansen, Steve	545
24 Quick, G.	182	9 Harrington, Elise	301	10 Murray, Robert	470	18 Palmer, Scott	461
25 Schuitema, R.	163	10 Grofvert, Anne	213	11 Christie, Douglas J.	416	19 Makowski, Jarod	434
26 Pluta, Jake	162	11 Orman, Joan	69	12 Farrell, Scott	373	20 Difalco, Tim	423
27 Engstrom, D.	160			13 Strumberger Jr., Tom	312	21 Schut, Chad	417
28 Carlson, Joe	148	Expert Senior I -24	Total	14 Seaman, Michael	133	22 Pekrul, Robert	399
29 Snyder, Jeff	140	Rank Name Points		15 Wittbrodt, Jeff	128	23 Colflesh Jr., Jim	283
30 Miller, D. S.	134	1 Quick, Joe	959	16 Thomas, Scott	55	24 Waterman, T. Aaron	243
31 Szarowicz, T.	133	2 Mulders, Jacob	880			25 Glynn, Jeff	242
32 Rytlewski, P.	126	3 Graham, Derek	875			26 Hahn, Dennis	177



27	Gardulski, PJ	148	3	Harris, Brian	250	2	Smith, Ron	280	23	Bates, Daniel E.	0
28	Toth, Eric S.	18	4	Frost, Nathan	210	2	Linton, Craig	276	23	Buyse, Brian	0
			5	Swain, Rob	201	4	Wright, Gary A.	259	23	Cyr, Marc	0
Beg. Women -14		Total	6	Ricco, Anthony	118	5	Boyd, Mike	210	23	Gurd, Brian W.	0
Rank Name Points			7	Laviolette, Gregg	104	6	Lining, Thomas P.	209	23	Horsfeldt, Ole	0
1	Hendershot, Chenoah	255	8	Justice, Dan	96	7	Silvers, Scott	152	23	Isaacsen, Eric P.	0
2	Kelley, Melissa	240	9	Sparks, Tim	87	8	Brandenburg, J.	136	23	Meyers, Scott	0
3	Ferguson, Stacey	62	10	Claxton, Scott	59	9	Shenfeld, Joe	95	23	Norris, Earl	0
			11	Wright, Curtis	56	11	Montemayor, A.	72	23	Pominville, M.	0
Beg. Women 15-29		Total	12	Timmins, B.	42	12	Bowman, John	70	23	Sarks, James W.	0
Rank Name Points			13	Luarca Jr., R.	27	13	Grayden, Scott	62	23	Starling, Kenneth	0
1	Olson, Cheryl	258.5	14	Turner, Andrew	26	14	Floyd, Bryan S.	36	23	White, Daniel S.	0
2	Rigg, Lisa	238	15	Clark, Jeff	21	15	Parkinson, T. H.	31	23	Wilkins, Marc	0
3	Tischer, Melanie	223	15	Pomranky, Steve	21	16	Harrison, David	27	Beg. Master 45+ Total		
4	Stauffer, Amy	201.5	17	Ciesla, John	0	16	Miller, Jeffrey	27	Rank Name Points		
5	Claxton, Leanne	32	17	Hanks, Gregory M.	0	18	Drabik, Chris	25	1	Swain, Charles	242
6	Worthington, Christine	26	17	Harrington, Ryan	0	18	Giddings, B. G.	25	2	Weighous, Tony	151
7	Fall, Doni	24	17	Rayner, Dustin S.	0	20	Flick, Scott	10	3	Smith, Gerald J.	117
			17	Skiedziel, Bryan	0	21	Carey, Rodney	0	4	Martus, David	107
Beg. Women 30+		Total	17	Smith, Chad	0	21	Forrest, Jeffrey T.	0	5	Liddell, Ronald L.	104
Rank Name Points			17	Sulkes, Joel K.	0	21	Green, Brad	0	6	Vanderkolk, Terry	66
1	Jackson, Debra	269	17	Williams, Mike	0	21	Nowaczyk, Dean	0	7	Montgomery, Dave	59
2	Seeburger, Dawn	224	Beg. Senior II 25-29 Total		21	Rozegnal, John	0	7	Sparks, Larry	59	
3	Boynton, Kim	203	Rank Name Points		21	Rubarth, Fred	0	9	Wollerman, Gary A.	55	
4	Sears, Kelly L.	173	1	Grumelot, Carey	324	21	Vedejs, Mike	0	10	Cardinal, Jay	46
5	Racey, Lynda	161	2	Flodder, Bill	292	Beg. Vet 35-44 Total		11	Blankenship, R. P.	31	
6	Tyrrell, Fran	30	3	Selow, Jan T.	272	Rank Name Points		13	Horst, David N.	31	
7	Remer, Donna	28	4	Criscuolo, T. J.	243	1	Parker, Jeff	306	13	Dauer, Jerry	28
8	Horst, Mary	27	5	Holkeboer, John	234	2	Grose, Tim	283	13	Mintek Md., Rian	28
9	Johnston, Carol	24	6	Potas, Edward A.	227	3	Mitchell, Tim	238	15	Hanks, Fred M.	23
Beg. Junior -14		Total	7	Lockwood, Doug	206	4	Owens, Tom	225	15	Spitler, Richard	23
Rank Name Points			8	Deaton, Russ	201	5	Guynn, John	208	17	Acord, Bill	0
1	Warners, Tim	259	9	McDermott, Pat.	172	6	Krentz, Eric	207	17	Danek, Robert	0
2	Hosko, Eric	252	10	Holtz, Doug	161	7	Parrish, Jeff	196	17	Hull, Donald J.	0
3	Williams, Carl	167	11	Cox Jr., Bill	143	8	Van Wieren, Tod	179	17	Kloekner, Michael	0
4	Allen, David E.	30	12	Tompkin, Eric	110	9	Roodvoets, Tim	159	17	Mackey, David A.	0
5	Huyghe, Erik	28	13	Isham, Scott	64	10	Twigg, Eric	157	17	McCatty, David J.	0
6	Gentry, Chris	27	14	Griessel, Kevin	50	11	Yonkers, Kevin	124	17	Turner, Jim	0
7	Bruce, Jimi	25	15	Spencer, Thomas	47	12	Dale, Randy	100			
			16	Fraley, Brad J.	44	13	Shively, Dan	63			
Beg. Junior 15-18		Total	17	Ferguson, Matt	34	14	Summerfield, D.	40			
Rank Name Points			18	Shaw, Ford	32	15	Allums, David C.	29			
1	Presley, Ben	292	19	Krusac, Tim M.	26	15	Armbruster, Cary	29			
2	DuBois, Kevin	290	20	Harbour, Craig	23	17	Budbeamer, P.	28			
3	Ferguson Jr., Gary	280	21	Petts, Russell S.	22	17	Herrington, S.	28			
4	Thomas, Trevor	246	21	Rosenberger, Kelly	22	19	Deronge, David	24			
5	Croskey, Kenneth	202	23	Corpuz Jr., Roque	0	20	Bradley, Scott J.	23			
6	Williams, David	185	23	Cyrulewski, Chris	0	20	Geffen, Bruce	23			
7	Collins, Corey	111	23	Garan, Steve	0	22	Kapplinger, K. R.	16			
8	Foster, Todd	107	23	Gilmore, James	0						
9	Draper, David	101	23	Kalousek, Ken	0						
10	Szajna, Mike	89	23	Killingbeck, J. Scott	0						
11	Gunderson, Brooks	86	23	Krupp, Scott T.	0						
12	Fournier, Clint	73	23	McClelland, William	0						
13	Haske, Bram	64	23	McGill IV, Fred L.	0						
14	Morningstar, Eric	47	23	Reid, Adam	0						
15	Herbert, Ryan	29	23	Townsend, C. Glynne	0						
			23	Valerius, Matthew	0						
Beg. Senior I 19-24		Total	Beg. Senior III 30-34 Total								
Rank Name Points			Rank Name Points								
1	Silva, Nick	297	1	Wilson, Steven	285						
2	Ross, Cory	253									



"A cold coming we had of it,  
Just the worst time of the year  
For a journey, and such a long journey  
The ways deep and the weather sharp  
The very dead of winter..."

T.S. Elliot



"A cold coming we had of it,  
Just the worst time of the year  
For a journey, and such a long journey:  
The ways deep and the weather sharp,  
The very dead of winter..."

T.S. Elliot



# Off The Net

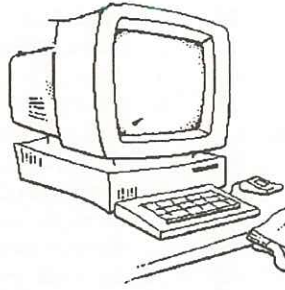
## Fall Fall

Rode the Poto yesterday afternoon. Was cold, but beautiful - about 32 degrees no wind. Little bits of snow on the ground! Trail was very slippery from all of the wet leaves - sometimes it was really difficult to pick a line or determine what was a rock or hole or log or anything. I wore a windbreaker vest and an expedition weight thermax top, leg warmers and gloves and I was very warm and comfortable. For awhile. About 4 or 5 miles into the trail I was going down a slight decline and...I don't know what happened. I must have hit something cause I went way off the trail and was found wrapped around a tree. I was about 1/4 mile behind Adam and Dan and I don't know how far ahead of Jim. Fortunately, Jim found me. Initially I was unconscious. When I came to I didn't recognize him, know what day it was or where I was. After a couple of minutes I figured out who he was, realized I was at the Poto, but was still extremely disoriented. He got me on the bike (no apparent damage to bike or helmet) and slowly led me out of the park.

We hit a road and jumped onto the Silver Lake Trail and rode that back to the parking lot. Went to the emergency room in Maumee. They did a CAT scan of my head, took blood and urine samples. The CAT scan didn't show anything. Well it showed that I had a brain (much to most people's amazement), but no damage. My scalp has a big bruise on it, but it doesn't hurt. The helmet looks fine - no scratches, no dents, nothing. I have large ugly bruises on my left thigh and shin and bruises on my right leg. I have a pulled hamstring on my left leg and scrapes and scratches on my back, and a gigantic black hematoma on my right side just about where your belt goes around your waist. Under the black bruise is a hard knot about the size of Joe Frazier's fist. Maybe that's what happened - I got sucker punched by Joe Frazier. My head is fine, but my side really, really, really, hurts. It feels like the skin is on fire. I had a little blood in my urine, but nobody seemed too concerned. White blood cell count was kinda high but nobody made anything outta that either. Gotta go to my regular physician today for a look see. It was a real nice ride up until the crash. Clear blue skies, crisp air - really great.

D. R.

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*Sometimes an article like the preceding one elicits discussion on trail safety and risk. The following analysis of double standards, and sloppy thinking by anti-trail advocates speaks to all trails and recreational development I believe.*

*What do you think? ED*

## Trails, Safety and Risk

Many mountain bike/rail-trail opponents claim that these trails are unsafe for the users and the adjacent landowners. As "proof," they gather anecdotes about crime and danger on trails. Second, they assert that these crimes prove all trails are unsafe. Third, they draw the conclusion that your trail will also be crime and danger ridden and should not be built.

I believe this line of argument employs a double standard of safety and risk. Those who attack the safety of trails would never think of applying the same type of risk analysis to other forms of transportation, recreation or life in general. It's a neat logical trick: by demanding perfect safety (i.e., no risks) in an imperfect and risky world, they create an artificial and impossibly high standard of safety that trail makers can never meet.

Trail opponents don't require promises of perfect safety in other areas of life, or they wouldn't get out of bed in the morning. They ignore all the risks involved in walking, riding in a car or crossing the supermarket parking lot while waving a few anecdotes about danger on trails. I've gathered some statistics over the years on risks and safety that might help make the point.

Dogs, sometimes called man's best friend, provide companionship to millions. Yet in 1995, 3.5 million dog bites were reported to American insurance carriers, with the companies spending \$1 billion on the claims (South Bend Tribune, Oct. 6, 1996). Should we, therefore, outlaw dogs?

Escalators carry millions of people safely each year. Yet in Boston, 300 people require emergency room treatment every year from injuries received while riding on escalators (NBC Dateline, Nov. 29, 1995). Should we, therefore, eliminate escalators?

A trip to the grocery store is a usually routine. Yet in one recent year, shopping cart accidents resulted in 25,000 trips to the emergency room (68 per day), including two deaths. Two thousand children were hospitalized (NBC Today Show, March 20, 1996; data from a study by Dr. Gary



Smith, Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio). Should we, therefore, ban shopping carts?

Regular exercise can significantly reduce the chances of dying prematurely from heart disease and other ailments. Yet in 1992 many forms of recreation resulted the following number of emergency room trips: table tennis -1,455; billiards -5,835; golf -37,556; in-line skates -83,000; swing sets -102,232; bicycles -649,536 (Newsweek, June 21, 1994, data from U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission). No question: let's definitely ban that dangerous table tennis game.

Farmers use the latest equipment to produce our food. Yet in Indiana, 28 people die in an average year in farm accidents. Farmers die at more than four times the average rate of all other workers from work-related accidents, according to the National Safety Council. (AP story in the Goshen News. I did not record the date.)

Government sources estimate that air bags in motor vehicles have saved 2,700 lives. Yet at the same time they have killed 87 people - 48 adults and 39 children (NBC Nightly News, Nov. 17, 1997).

Trains are one of the most efficient ways to move freight. Yet a vehicle-train crash occurs about once every 90 minutes. Two motorists are killed daily in these crashes (Goshen News, July 13, 1994; data from Indiana Operation Lifesaver. It's unclear in the story if the data is just for Indiana or the entire U.S.).

We send our sons and daughters to college for higher education. Yet colleges are awash in criminal behavior. About 2,400 U.S. colleges reported their statistics on campus crime to the Chronicle of Higher Education in response to the 1990 federal law, the Student Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act of 1990. The report states that in the reporting year (1991 or 1992 - I'm not sure which) there were 30 murders, 1,000 rapes and 1,800 robberies on these campuses. However, they reported that these violent crimes, thank goodness, were the exception, e.g., there were 32,127 burglaries and 8,981 motor vehicle thefts in the same period. (I know I feel better with that qualification.) (From the Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 20, 1993. p. A32.)

And, of course, the most glaring source

of risky behavior-the highways. In 1993, 53,717 motor vehicles were involved in 35,747 fatal crashes, resulting in 40,115 deaths (Insurance Institute for Highway Safety). Does this statistic mean we should, therefore, ban motor vehicles or highways or both?

Every form of human activity involves risks. The question is whether the risks are acceptable in light of the rewards. Our society, with some bazaar logic, rationalizes away or accepts 40,000 deaths each year from motor vehicles because it believes the rewards are acceptable. Most people believe the rewards of college are worth the risk of occasional criminal behavior, and most people believe the risk of going up the escalator is worth the risk of getting your foot caught in the mechanism. Once established trails have proven to be as safe as the surrounding community through which they pass. The rewards of recreation and non-motorized transportation they provide far outweigh the risks.

While it is important not to trivialize or deny that bad things can happen on trails, it is equally important to examine the logic behind the anecdotes. Are trail opponents willing to apply their let's-close-the-trails logic to other activities, e.g., close all highways because 40,000 people are killed each year; close all colleges because there were 1,000 rapes? If not, then they are using a double standard to analyze risks-a selective use of statistics to discredit what is a relatively safe activity.

Two final points. First, we need to educate trail users about elementary safety precautions. We should caution people about jogging alone on an isolated trail, just as we would caution against jogging alone on an isolated country road or the mall parking lot.

Second, if there are safety problems on trails, we need to fix them. That's what we do with highways. If there's a dangerous highway curve, we straighten it. If a certain highway intersection has frequent accidents, we redesign it or put up stoplights. But, we don't close the road when we discover a problem, and we don't stop building more of them. Instead, we improve them.

Why would it be any different for trails?  
John D. Yoder, President,  
Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc.  
Goshen, IN 46526-4836  
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*(web stuff cont. next pg.)*



## More Web Stuff....

by Chad Allen

chadallen@mindspring.com

website: www.mmba.org

As you all know, thanks to the hard work on the part of Robin Scurr we have a really quality site. What's even more encouraging is that people are actually using it. In a recent month the point series results page received 1660 hits. That means about 55 people check on their results via our web site every day! The main home page got 1838 hits recently (61 hits per day), and the various chapter pages got between 30-120 hits apiece. In the short time that I've been in charge of

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**The main home page got 1,838 hits during a recent month (61 hits per day), and the various chapter pages got between 30-120 hits apiece.**

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the site, I've received grateful e-mail from people interested in trail information from as far away as Austria.

I think this indicates that our web site really is an effective way to communicate information to members and nonmembers alike, not just a nifty, high-tech widget. Because of this, I'd like to encourage all of you to help me update and enhance the information available at our web site for 1998. In particular, I'd like to really beef up the trail information, since this is the main service that chapters can provide to nonmembers who are looking for places to ride (and this, of course, is the best way to recruit new members!) In order to do this, however, I need your help. I'm in the process of reorganizing the trail information by chapter, so that people can just click on a map and choose the area of the state they are interested in. The Board of Trustees has just begun implementing a business plan by which these areas will be more defined.

You can contact your chapter President and help this process along.

Hopefully this will also address the many trails that are not even listed on the trails page. Again you can help by checking the trails page, and if your chapter's trails aren't listed, e-mail me the info/description of the trail your chapter maintains / in the format found at the website.

A long term goal is to get trail maps on line (with access privileges to members/and limited information for nonmembers). This would be a great service to people coming in to ride trails from out of town. As evidence for this, consider that the Heartland and Pontiac Lake maps posted by Robin on the Pontiac Lake page were both viewed over 40 times in one month. Recently, I've put other maps in place and the interest has also been positive. You can also send me hard copies of maps with info and I'll put them on the site.

So, help me keep dates fresh and timely, get me info on the trails and spread the word about one of the coolest advocacy sites on the web!

**GUESS WHAT!**  
It's **Winter**  
again...

**Tailwind**  
ENTERPRISES

**HOO-RAY!**  
It's **Winter**  
again...

*It's time for the Winter '98*

**— Paul Bunyan MTB Race Series —**

January 25 Pontiac Lake Campground  
February 15 Island Lake Rec Area (Trailhead)  
March 1 Pontiac Lake Campground

Yes, that February date *does* say Island Lake!  
*This will be Tailwind's only race at Island Lake in '98.*

Now too, is the time to think about **INDOOR TRAINING** for the winter season... not that you will not ride outdoors, but you can supplement the reduced riding you may do when it is cold, dark and icy, with our evening indoor sessions. It's a blast (ha-ha) sweating with friends! Come give it a try!

**INDOOR TIME TRIALS** for training and fun are set for Jan 18, Feb 8, Feb 22, and March 15. These are 3-Mile races on rollers using forkstands. *Come join us!* Call for details.

**Complete Tailwind event schedule for '98**  
**will be ready to mail in early January!**

If you want to be added to our mailing list, call or mail your:  
Name, Address, City, State, Zip & Phone No. to:  
**Tailwind Ent. — P.O.Box 368 — Davisburg, MI 48350**  
Phone or Fax: 248/634-6178 — Web: [www.rust.net/~atumper](http://www.rust.net/~atumper)

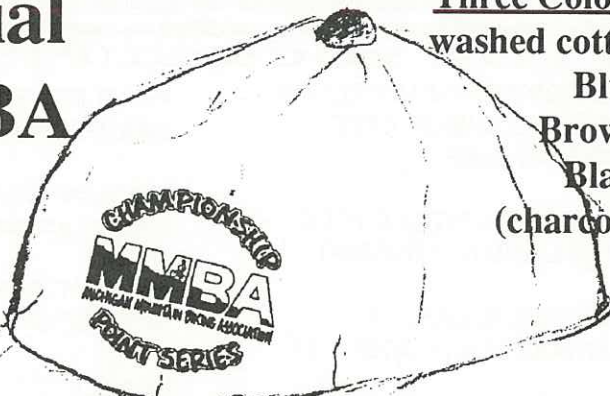


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the, 1998 MMBA Annual  
Meeting SEE PAGE 2!

...Once you tell the  
truth, no one will ever  
believe you no matter  
how much you lie..."  
(Heard in  
Washington D.C.)



Please remember to  
recycle...it's a part of  
bicycling!



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\*\*members of the 10% club  
see page 17....

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Special thanks to ABC Printing 3001 E. Highland Rd. Highland MI 48356 Phone: 248-887-0010

Chicago Area Bike Dealers Association (CABDA) - 708-798-2004

Thanks for a great opportunity and show at the 1997 CABDA Bicycle Show this past Oct.!!!



# 10% MEMBER CLUB BUSINESS

AS AN MMBA MEMBER YOU RECEIVED A LIST OF THE 10% MEMBERS WHEN YOU JOINED AND/OR WILL RENEW MEMBERSHIP THIS YEAR. IF YOUR SHOP/MANUFACTURER WOULD LIKE TO BECOME AN MMBA 10% MEMBER IN ADDITION TO BEING A PROUD SHOP/MANUFACTURER MEMBER OF THE MMBA JUST CALL 616-785-0120 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

**A REMINDER TO ALL MMBA MEMBERS: ALL THE SHOPS/MANUFACTURERS ON THE LAST PAGE ARE SPECIAL. THEY SUPPORT YOUR EFFORTS ON THE TRAIL AND IN THE MMBA POINTS SERIES. THEY DESERVE YOUR PATRONAGE!!!!!!**

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Attention all MMBA 10% Club bike shop participants please send me an updated business card size ad for inclusion in the next issue of the BRB. New ad submission deadline: Feb. 1998.

Please don't delay!



## MMBA To Begin Kids Program

by Jason Aric Jones

Beginning in late Spring 1998, the MMBA will introduce a new program entitled, **Mountain Kids**. **Mountain Kids** will be a youth program aimed at providing mountain biking day trips to at-risk urban youths, ages 8 to 12. The idea is to give kids the chance to experience "the great outdoors" and the recreational opportunities it provides.

The program will consist of ten bikes which will be trailered to each event site. The hope is for each chapter to hold one **Mountain Kids** trip (each year at a venue within the chapter's area (i.e. the Southeast Chapter could hold an event at Maybury for kids from Detroit, etc.). The MMBA will be working with groups such as the Boys and Girls Clubs of America to arrange for kids to participate.

Recreational Equipment Incorporated (REI), of Seattle, Washington has graciously provided the MMBA with 10 Dirt rider kids mountain bikes to use in the program. **Currently, the program still has some outstanding needs, including: a trailer, kids helmets & gloves, and VOLUNTEERS to assist with the program.** If you have ideas/proposals, can provide equipment, or can VOLUNTEER, please contact Jason Aric Jones, MMBA President, at 313-426-7581, or, xer68@aol.com. All corporate and dealer contributors will be recognized as full program sponsors!



Dear Mr. Jones:

Thank you for requesting assistance from REI. Your proposal was a good match to REI's focus on supporting outdoor muscle-powered recreational opportunities.

I'm pleased to inform you that you have been awarded the following items for your **Mountain Kids** program:

10 Novara Dirt Rider Bicycles, 24", 624-765, in Black. The items will be shipped in November.

Please keep REI informed of your activities and achievements. Good luck with your important work.

Sincerely,

Barry Devenney

Grants Administrator REI

To: REI - Barry Devenney Grants Administrator  
Summer WA 98390-0800

Dear Mr. Devenney, On behalf of the Michigan Mountain Biking Association's (MMBA) 1,500 members I would like to thank you for your recent commitment of support towards the MMBA's charitable work in local communities throughout Michigan. Your support of the MMBA **Mountain Kids** Program, in the form of 10 Novara Dirt Rider Bicycles will allow us to reach out and affect the lives of children in numerous cities around Michigan.

Throughout 1998 we will keep REI informed of the progress we are making and the young lives we will touch. Our goal is to bring hope and joy to children who may be at a disadvantage when it comes to the opportunity of spending time on the forested trails and lands of Michigan. We are honored to have your support and will do everything we can to carry out the mission we've embarked upon due directly to the assistance you have given us. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
MMBA

(cc cont. form pg. 7)

## Mid-State Chapter

The Mid-State Chapter has wrapped up a very busy year! And 1998 promises just as many fun activities and more great prizes. I'd like to take the oppor-

tunity to thank those companies who donated prizes to our events: Bontrager, Salsa, ZZ Underwater World, Denny's Central Park Bicycles, MudSluts, Cannondale, Stoker Bar, Mountain Lift Bars and Primal!!! Without these

**"Some people think health food is anything eaten before the expiration date...."**

**Rudner**

wonderful sponsors, our events wouldn't have been nearly as exciting.

Thanks to members Jeff Snyder and Gregg Iddings, the chapter has a new trail available to ride in the Adrian area at Heritage Park. The trail is rather technical with some tricky singletrack and long hill climbs. We will be holding trail maintenance days in the spring. There are some major



projects slated to happen down there and we hope to have one of the events there, and possibly a chapter race. Watch here and in the chapter newsletter for more info.

Hopefully we'll see a lot of you at the annual meeting and awards banquet in February...stop by to say hello and introduce yourself. Sometime in early January we'll be having a chapter meeting, planning 1998 and other stuff! See you there!

**"...that something else was a strong organization with the voice of many members speaking as one..."**

## **Southwest Chapter**

### **From the Southwestern Chapter some tips on working with land managers\*\***

The first thing you must do is establish a working relationship with your land manager. At Fort Custer our land manager is Bill Kosmider with the Michigan DNR. In the beginning, cyclists were riding abandoned roads and 2 track motor vehicle trails left

fallow for over thirty years. Gordy received permission to add an experimental single track trail on 60 acres adjacent to Eagle Lake. Our first addition, was called the Amusement Park. With this new attraction came signs enabling trail users to ride a loop using mostly existing trails.

These existing trails have multiple problems. Because four wheeled vehicles can tip over sideways, all these trails go straight up or down the steepest hills. This caused erosion of the hillsides and deep sand deposits at the base of each hill. These trails often ended at the park boundary in sort of a dead end. In the beginning no signs were posted to help trail users find their way around. These trails needed help.

Gordy and I would recruit volunteers from local bike shops like Billys' or Team Three but our relationship with the land manager needed something else. That something else was a strong organization with the voice of many members speaking as one. We became the Southwest Chapter MMBA. A bridge repair project was stalled due to excuses and indecision in Lansing. The hang-up was engineering drawings, environmental impact, ADA, . . . .you name it. It looked as though our chapter would have to fork out \$5,000 just for approval. MMBA executive director, Dwain Abramowski, worked with Lansing management and we had approval in no time at all. You should have seen the happy look on Bill's face the day we constructed the new bridge. Here is the bottom line. The bridge has of value of over \$20,000 if built by the state and its employees. Materials and volunteer labor from SW MMBA were under \$1,000. It benefited Ft. Custer and

increased usership. Usership determines how large a slice of the budget Fort Custer will get. Trail riding has now become the biggest attraction in the park. Without the MMBA, we would still be riding old roads. There are already plenty of places where you can ride straight and smooth. Where can I find a more natural setting?

Another secret of our success, was careful low maintenance trail design. Include in your trails natural or man-made features to give it a playground feel. We find that the best season to find these features is late fall when leaves are down and a light dusting of snow is on the ground. With these conditions you can easily see old animal or hunter trails as indentations on the surface. Explore the entire area and find every piece of trail or feature you would like to ride. Connect these trails and features with temporary markings. Make sure everything is passable and scenic while offering a challenge to the rider. Avoid bogs or puddle spots and never climb or descend a hill straight up or down. Where necessary, you'll need to make a trail of your own to connect the pieces of natural trail you have found. When you think you've got it, show your ideas to someone else. I call Gordy, he calls me. Modulate your original design toward perfection. Gordy might point out a potentially dangerous hazard or point to a simpler solution to a design problem. Now it is time to get approval.

Our land manager trusts us. When we ask for approval we show him on a map the route and the reason we want this new route. He may want to walk the area and see for himself. Bill doesn't understand mountain biking and

(cc cont. next pg.)

*\*At this point this process applies to State Parks and Recreation Area Under the Michigan DNR control / All activities are subject to DNR Approval.*



(cc cont. from last pg.)

sometimes offers to bulldoze rocks or tree roots out of our way. So, he may not understand why we go out of our way to ride them. At any rate, use existing trails whenever possible. Deer at one time or another made most of them and they won't washout in the next rainstorm. Follow the advice of your land manager. It would be easy to put signs on trees or to drive in metal sign posts. At Fort Custer we follow Bills' instruction and use wooden posts set high enough so no one could be injured from falling on top of one. Don't abuse your relationship, keep your land manager informed.

I would like to stress the importance of signs. Signs are the one thing that gives trail users the confidence that they can find their way back. Poor markings or missing signs will destroy confidence and cause complaints. Good markings enhance your enjoyment and can aid search and rescue efforts. Winter before last a dogsledder had a heart attack. Mountain bikers helped ambulance personnel find the peninsula on the red trail near the #15 marker. Too many signs can confuse and others may not get the right message from a sign that is clear to you. If you don't have the sign knowhow, listen to criticism and invite help from someone who does. Our motto is "Build it and they will come". Once the trail is used it can be followed easily and a missing sign is no big deal. But getting lost is a big deal and signs should be replaced any time they are vandalized or stolen. Our trail system is backed up by maps. Maps can reinforce signs and give names to different parts of the trail.

Now it is time to make trail.

Get your volunteers together. Let them know what tools to bring. A leaf rake is the final tool that will bare the ground and help the first users know where to walk or ride. Once the trail is hardened no further raking is required. No roots should be removed. Leaf rubble will be ground up by trail users. Minimum impact is my goal and no trees larger around than my thumb should be cut. Up to eye level, branches should be pruned back. A machete is a favorite tool. It is up to you how close to trim back brush. I like the sensation of speed I get at 10 m.p.h. on a winding trail with branches brushing my body. If you prune too wide, riders will increase speed and straighten your trail. Properly designed, your trail won't take much earth moving or corduroy across wet spots. Temporary paper signs can be put up to help people at first and removed once the trail is seasoned. Copy other trail designers but don't get artificial. Accentuate natural hazards. Later on, as changes occur, and trees fall, decide whether to modify your trail or remove the new obstacle. With careful planning maintenance will be minimal. Don't forget to record names and hours for First Across the Finish Line Awards.

Mike Needham  
Co-trailboss Fort Custer Trails,  
President Southwest Chapter

## Northeast Chapter

**A MOUNTAIN BIKERS  
CRY IN THE WILDERNESS**  
*A NEW FRONTIER OR A GREAT  
DIVIDE A PERSPECTIVE*  
BY: TODD M. DEWELL  
NORTHEAST CHAPTER MMBA

A famous person once wrote "Those who do not understand history are doomed to repeat it". Many of us in the mountain biking community feel pretty good about what the MMBA has been able to accomplish on behalf of not only mountain bikers, but all non-motorized users in its short history. I wish to propose that there is something to be learned from not only our short history, but from our fellow brothers and sisters who enjoy outdoor recreation both motorized and not on State of Michigan land.

There is a price to pay for the privilege. We all know the MMBA was started because land managers, mainly in Michigan State Parks and Recreation Areas didn't know how to deal with the increasing number of mountain bike users and resulting multi-use conflicts in their respective systems. Their answer might have been an easy one if it were not for the MMBA - close the parks and recreation areas to mountain biking. This was avoided through the hard work and cooperation of land managers, mountain bikers and volunteers. This same history is shared by our motorized two wheeled cousins and countless other outdoor enthusiast. The point being there was a mobilized effort of like-minded individuals. They all shared a common interest in a recreational activity they cared deeply about and wanted to do something to preserve it. The history of many recreational groups are similar to the MMBA's. Let's move to the present.

We now feel not only good, but also quite comfortable with our compartmentalized view of land use for mountain biking. I mean just look at what we have accomplished at Fort Custer Recreation Area, Pontiac Lakes

(cc cont. next pg.)



(cc cont. from last pg.)

Recreation Area, Highland Recreation Area, Island Lake, and Potawatomi, the list goes on. We are in most cases welcomed by the land managers in these areas who need the help and have the flexibility to work with recreational interests.

Only recently have mountain bikers come to understand that there are those among us who are not blessed by state recreation areas, but are even more blessed by over 3 million acres of state forestland. But, Michigan State Forests may be the new frontier of mountain biking or it may be the great divide. That is because the compartmentalized view of land

**"...blessed by over  
3 million acres of state  
forest land..."**

use works well in State Parks and Recreation areas, but not so well in State Forests. There is a tendency to believe "one way" is best for all "mountain bikers" in the state. This may not be the case.

The Michigan State Forest System is our new frontier and our future. There are a good number of MMBA, and non-MMBA members alike who realize this fact. For those that don't understand the complexities of the State Forest system, it's time to step outside of their individual boxes and take a long look around. We are already faced with a page right out of our history book. State Land Managers are once again faced with a dilemma of what to do with the increase use of mountain bikes on state land. Except this time its on state forest land. A new type of land management process. Unfortunately this process has been strained by

members of our own mountain biking community (not necessarily MMBA members) and may have already caused irreparable damage to our collective mountain bike future in the State Forests.

Where is the collective cry in the wilderness? Surely others must feel as I do? How can chapters such as my own and others work cooperatively with our local state forestland managers when we will be painted with the same brush that those who have not respected the State Forest Process for recreational development and use of trails? We are being divided both as an organization and as mountain bikers in general. The tail will wag this dog eventually when we grow tired of riding in our handful of compartments only to find them the only legal place left to ride in the state. We must give more than a passing look at this issue or other's will.

The recent creation of the Thunder Bay Trails Association near Alpena seeks to shore up this process. This organization not only looks at mountain biking, but other forms of non-motorized recreation in the Mackinaw State forest system in Alpena and adjoining Counties. Yes, they are MMBA members as an organization and they formed because the recreational needs of non-motorized users including mountain bikers not being met on State Forest land in their immediate area. It is time to circle the wagons and try to bridge this divide while there is still time. Respect the State Forest Process for trail development and use, get involved with the needs of your local State Forest land manager and local biking and trails community. The picture of mountain biking you paint, may be your own.

## Western Chapter Trip to the NMBP in Colorado

**By Ric Castleman**

My trip to the National Mountain bike Patrol Clinic in Colorado was most interesting. I knew something was up when I got to the airport and my flight was cancelled due to mechanical problems. They put me on another airline and my real nightmare began. Grand Rapids to Chicago was a piece of cake. The fun began when we were about to land in Colorado Springs. The landing gear was already down on our final approach and visibility was zero with a fifty mile an hour cross-wind and snow.

Our pilot then decided to abort the landing. Denver was bogged down with too many other diverted flights so we were sent on a plan ride from Hell to Albuquerque, NM. After one of those one point landings and pulling the seat out of my backside, we were contained on the plane while refueling. The pilot then came on the intercom and said we will be flying into Denver and terminate this flight. Never did like the word, "terminating". Sounds so final! We weren't even close to final.

They stuck us on a bus to Colorado Springs in a white-out. Normally this trip would only take one hour. We were in no hurry, so we made it a three and a half hour bus ride from Hell. Going up Monument Pass was one thing. Coming down was an adventure. When we got to the Colorado

(cc cont. next pg.)



(cc cont. from last pg.)

Springs Airport there was a big cheer for the bus driver. We all were in one piece but worn a little ragged. I had a rental car waiting there. At this point, I felt like I was doing a rental car commercial. I was the idiot that chose the wrong rental car company. You guessed it, I was floundering around in a blizzard trying to find my car with another guy who was attending the clinic too. Enevitably, I had the wrong clothing for that kind of weather. I did manage to find my Pearl Izume winter riding gloves.

I drove while the other guy hung out the door to feel for the curb. Actually I looked out this two inch by two inch clearing in the windshield while my partner scoped the street signs. I was never so glad to see the Roadway Inn sign. Aside from getting there, the Clinic was successful and enlightening.

I will be starting Michigan Mountain Bike Patrol classes in February 98. This class will teach you how to train and certify patrollers for specific trails in your chapter regions throughout the state of Michigan. CPR and First Aid certification will be required in order to become a patroller. In brief this program is about:

- First Aid-CPR • trailside bike repair (assist) • interpersonal/conflict resolution skills • minimum impact riding skills • trail and environmental issues • awareness of state-specific liability issues, i.e. "good Samaritan" laws (while not required, but recommended) • basic communication equipment skills (if applicable) • local land management relations • orienteering (if appropriate)

**Note: Enforcement will not be a part of this program**

Assist, Educate, and Inform is on the National logo and will be seen on the state logo as well.

For those who are interested please email or call Ric Castleman 616-948-9089/Rickiblues@aol.com and leave your address and phone number. I will send you more info on the patrol program.

## Major Impact Reported Due To Mountain Biking.....

### Impact meaning money for local businesses

The Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association (CAMBA), in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin-Extension and the U.S.D.A. Forest Service-Chequamegon National Forest have completed a study of the sport of mountain biking and its effects on the region. The report, titled Mountain Biking in the Chequamegon Area of Northern Wisconsin and Implications for Regional Development, was written by N.R. Sumathi, Community Development Economist, UW-Extension based in Madison and Dave Berard, Community Resource Development Agent of Sawyer County.

The study was conducted during the 1995 and 1996 mountain bicycling seasons in the six community, two county region which comprises the CAMBA trail system. These communities include Hayward and Seeley in Sawyer County and Cable, Namakagon, Drummond, and Delta in Bayfield County. The combined population of these rural communities is less than 10,000. The CAMBA Trails system was established in 1993 with trail clusters of 40 to 100 miles in each of these communities. The 300-plus mile mapped and marked trail network has been recognized regionally and nationally as a model of a well organized, user-friendly trail system.

Although mountain biking is a rapidly growing activity within Wisconsin, little research had been conducted on its impact. The purposes of this study were to: identify mountain biking user characteristics, evaluate mountain bike trip characteristics, solicit input and feedback from users regarding the CAMBA trails, develop marketing information, establish baseline information regarding trail use and user expenditures, and estimate total economic impact of the sport of mountain biking and the CAMBA off-road bicycle trail system.

The study was a multi-phase undertaking which included the distribution of a short survey at trail heads, chambers of commerce, bike shops, and lodging facilities. A longer, eight page survey was then sent to those who indicated they would be willing to complete the more detailed form. Data from questions pertaining to all the above mentioned topics was compiled and analyzed by the University of Wisconsin-Extension.

In addition, the Chequamegon National Forest placed infra-red trail counters at numerous CAMBA trail heads throughout the season. The trail count data was correlated with the survey data to arrive at economic impact and trail use conclusions.

The mountain biking report identified the following characteristics of users of the CAMBA trails. Approximately 45% classified themselves as having advanced or expert skill levels, while 44% classified themselves as possessing average skills. More than 86% of the respondents indicated that mountain biking was an important or extremely important activity to them. Approximately 92% of respondents possess some secondary education. While survey respondents were of all ages, about 60% were between 25 and 40.

Regarding their trip characteristics, it was learned that 63% of the trail users are repeat visitors. Their average length of stay in the Cable area is 3.6 days and more than 44% of the respondents were from the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, with Chicago and Madison comprising other key major markets.

Ninty-four percent of trail users expressed satisfaction with the CAMBA trails. The most used trail clusters in the CAMBA system were Namakagon and Cable, followed by Seeley, Hayward, Drummond, and Delta. Trail count estimates account for 23,630 bikers using these clusters during the 1996 season.

Based on trail counts and reported daily expenditures within a 30 mile radius, expenditures are estimated at \$630,245. An additional \$163,391 was spent outside the 30 mile radius by trail users.. Total economic impact including direct expenditures, employment, property income, and value added from the CAMBA trail users is calculated at \$1,174,100.

A complete copy of the report can be obtained by contacting CAMBA, P.O. Box 141, Cable, WI 54821, (715)798-3599 or the Chequamegon National Forest at 715.762.5700 or 715.634.4821. The study has also been posted on the world wide web and can be viewed at <http://cable4fun.com/camba>.



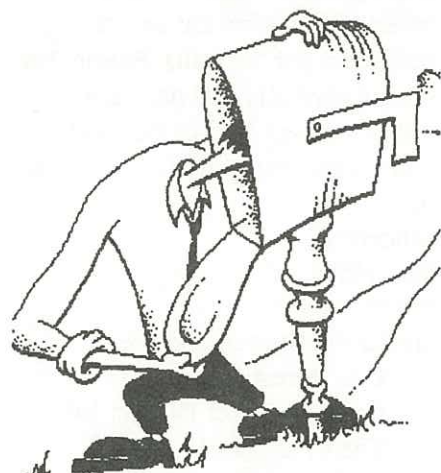
BOULDER, CO—Thirteen top mountain bike advocates have been selected as IMBA Action Heroes and will each receive \$500 grants from the 1997 IMBA/Shimano Action Heroes Fund. This fund was created by the successful spring '97 auction of Shimano Action Hero figures—custom models of pro mountain bike racers that were created by Shimano for its innovative Action Heroes advertising campaign, then donated to IMBA.

The winners are:

Dwain Abramowski of the Michigan Mountain Bike Association.  
 Laura-Lee Dyck of the Calgary Mountain Bike Alliance, Canada.  
 Mark Flint of the Merry Cranksters of Oregon.  
 Jay Franklin of the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Assoc. of Georgia.  
 Scott Frey of the Wisconsin Off-Road Bicycle Association.  
 Krisztina Holly of the New England Mountain Bike Association.  
 Jim Jacobsen of the Bicycle Trails Council of Marin, California.  
 Bob Michaels of the Suwanee Bicycle Association of Florida.  
 Jeanne Patterson of the Dallas Off-Road Bicycle Assoc. of Texas.  
 Gary Sjoquist of the North Central Mtn. Bike Group of Minnesota.  
 Jon Sundquist of the Western New York Mountain Bike Association.  
 Joost Van der Mark of MB Club Discovery, Landgrasf, Netherlands.  
 Norio Washida of the Japanese Mountain Bike Association.



IMBA executive director Tim Blumenthal said, "These 13 advocates represent the thousands of mountain bikers who regularly donate their time and expertise to keep trails open and in good condition for all of us. We thank Shimano for donating the Action Figures and helping IMBA encourage innovative trail programs and even better volunteer efforts."



## Letters and Stuff

Thank you for contacting me regarding America's Red Rock Wilderness Act of 1997, H.R. 1500.

As you may know, I am an environmentalist. I believe that we must conserve and protect our precious natural resources and be good stewards of the environment. I have a strong environmental voting record on both the state and federal level.

As we deal with legislation

that addresses clean air, clean water, conservation and safe foods, you can be assured that I always take care in approaching changes to current law. My concerns also extend to wilderness legislation such as H.R. 1500. I will continue to give concentrated study to this issue should it come before the House.

Thanks again for contacting me.

Vernon J. Ehlers  
 Member of Congress  
 \*\*\*\*\*

To Whom It May Concern  
 Oh behalf of the RPL 218/  
 Intro to Outdoor Recreation  
 Mountain Biking Trail Advocacy  
 Action Group of Central Michigan  
 University, I would like to extend my thanks to the Michigan Mountain Biking Association for their support in our studies. By sending us information about your group you have helped us tremendously. Thank you very much.  
 Sincerely,  
 Patrick Roenicke

\*\*\*\*\*

Hi

I'm looking forward to a longer stay in Detroit (several years) and thanks to your webpage I'm feeling much more comfortable now: Hey, there are mountain bike trails near *Michigan*!

I'm living here in Austria/Europe, and we have mountains all around, fantastic places to ride, and I sure will miss them. But thanks to your efforts and information I am looking forward to riding in Michigan.

Albert  
 tuertscher@avl.co.at  
 \*\*\*\*\*

To Whom It May concern

I have been a member of the MMBA for several years and support it wholeheartedly. But, I've also noticed a decline in newsletters and entryforms for races. And this last year I don't believe I received a notice of trail days.

What's up?

I take a folding saw when I



ride to clear brush and I pick up paper when ever I see it. But some places are showing signs of impact.

I like riding the Poto but I can't take people from work becasue they're not skilled enough for the conditions. If you need help I work nights. So all day I can help. Keep up the good work!  
Dave Mackey  
Livonia MI

ed: Dave! Hey, sorry about the newsletters. The BRB comes out 4 times a year and your local chapter tries to put out a newsletter about 4 times a year also (when they can get the volunteers...) Your work on the trail as you ride is greatly appreciated. The impact on the trail that you've noticed is related to just how many people are getting out into the woods biking, hiking, and just plain having fun. Your local Southeast Chapter has been working hard to get up and running after a short stint without leadership. Your chapter president is Todd Scott and he's committed to making the Southeast Chapter work for you. Just call him at 248-288-3753. Thank you for your support, the MMBA can't do it without you.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear MMBA,

How's it going? I m really looking forward to becoming a member of the MMBA. Ever since I started riding Michigan trails about four years ago I just can't seem to stop. But I also feel I need to put my fair share of trail maintenance in. Which brings me down to this. If I can only choose one chapter affiliation, then juding from my address I guess I will let you guys pick my chapter.

Thanks a lot,

Joey

P.S. Oh yeah, if you could I was

wondering if you could throw a couple of MMBA stickers in my membership. I would appreciate it!

ed: Joey, all members get stickers. However, everyone can get more if they like just send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the MMBA, P.O. Box 29 Belmont, MI 49306. We'll send more. If you wanted to include a \$1.00 for printing of the stickers that would help!

\*\*\*\*\*

Dwain,

Just reading the "Bugle" and thought some members/readers may not know where a lot of these trails are. Most of us know where our local trails are - you "travelers" know where all of them might be. How about a state map in the BRB that shows generally where the trails like Ft. Custer, the Poto, etc, are?

DBL

ed: DBL good idea. We'll get our crack staff of map makers right on it....that is when they get back from their lunch time ride..... they've been gone since 93'. In the meantime, check the web site for some directions and info on where the trails are and we are also developing a member hand book with the info, look for it in '98. Thanks for the suggestion.

\*\*\*\*\*

Time for trail etiquette...

I was biking on Labor Day at Pinckney. I saw an oncoming family with mom, dad and three young girls, make like 4,6 and 8 years old. I stopped, the trail there was fairly narrow, but there was room to safely go around each other. Nonetheless, I stopped and let them pass me, because they looked like slow moving family types and because you never really know what a child might

like to do out on the trail. The woman said to me, "You give bikers a good name, I was really starting to get mad at them."

You know, that felt good. It felt better than beating my best time (albeit not as good as the first time I made all the hills on Poto without touching dirt). That day, being a holiday and particularly busy with all types of trail users, I had to slow or stop a few other times; one time for some playful puppies.

So, my time was off. But it was worth the smiles and good will. Some of the hikers I passed were standing paralyzed and looking terrified on the side of the trail; apparently the people before didn't bother to slow down. My take on it is that people who are too busy being insecure about their own time are the ones who don't pause to think about the affect their biking has on other trail users (or the trail). Eating dirt comes normally and naturally with mountain biking, but only when your own stupidity serves it up.

Sincerely,

Ten Wenk

\*\*\*\*\*

To: Leslie Russell and the

U.S. Forest Service,

Balwin Ranger District MI

The Michigan Mountain

Biking Association (MMBA)

would like to take this opportunity to express our support for the Hungerford Project Area and the current Decision Notice. The development and incorporation of the mountain biking recreational

(letters cont. next pg.)

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**"The facts, though interesting, are completely irrelevant...."**

**Heard in Washington DC**



(letters cont. from last pg.)

activities in the project will contribute to the U.S. Forest Service's effort to meet the needs of one of the many constituents that require U.S. Forest Services attention. We would like to offer not only our words of support, but also our commitment to make every attempt to contribute volunteers and information as needed to develop and maintain the project. If we can be of service please don't hesitate to call. Sincerely,  
MMBA

Interested in Building Trails in the Hungerford Recreation Area-  
Contact:

Kathy Bietau 616-745-4631 ex. 117

Trail Planning has begun but it's still not too late for you to get involved.

\*\*\*\*\*

That is all!

# RIDING BOTH SIDES OF THE FENCE

By Fred Tyszka

The winter months are here and trail riding is more difficult or challenging, depending on your pain threshold. Special precautions have to be taken during this time of year to protect oneself from the extremes in climate conditions.

Most of the animals have migrated or gone into some form of hibernation due to these climate conditions. Those who remain are under a lot of stress, many eating just enough food each day to survive to the next day. The majority of the plants are dormant or in the seed stage, as are many of the insects, except that they would be in the egg or larval stage.

Man is also an animal and also exposed to these stressful conditions while enjoying the outdoors during the winter. This includes mountain bikers who have to be especially careful as they are dressed lightly for active movement and excess heat elimination. If a mountain biker wore this clothing ice fishing, he would experience the effects of hypothermia within fifteen minutes due to the inactivity of the sport.

The danger of hypothermia and exposure can be lessened by proper preparation for the unknown that can occur during this time of year. The reason preparation is needed is that an accident is more critical now because a dive into the snow or a cold puddle would be like diving into ice water with no insulative clothing, also a brisk wind can blow through some materials negating any R value. This is critical as twenty minutes of exposure can cause delirium and misjudgment.

The best away to avoid problem is to be prepared before you go on

the trails. A survival kit is one of the best ways to prepare and it need not be large. Most of the items in the kit could fit into a seat bag and would be well worth the extra weight.

Items to include in the kit would be a space survival blanket, available at most army surplus and sporting goods stores. It's only a couple inch square package and a couple of dollars. It resembles plastic lined foil. A first aid kit, this can be bought or homemade. A fire starter kit, this would include a source of fire as matches, lighter or something that will light in cold weather and some fire starter sticks, also available at the aforementioned stores. A source of fire is the hardest item as some of your modern lighters don't work when cold, but if kept in your pocket next to body heat they will. The old "Zippo" style lighter is good but will eventually evaporate its fuel if not checked regularly. And I would like someone to show me how those waterproof match cases are suppose to work. They keep the matches dry but there is not a striking surface that works. A small pocket knife is handy for chipping up a stick for fire starting and whatever. A piece of heavy aluminum foil wrapper around some tea bags and bouillon cubes is also handy, as the foil can be "cupped" on a forked stick and use to melt snow for tea or bullion. A small flash light is also beneficial for signaling or for finding the trail at

(riding fence cont. on pg. 28)

**Bike Dealers - In order to better meet your needs, please fill out this questionnaire and mail it to MMBA**

## Dealer Survey

P.O. Box 29  
Belmont, MI 49306  
Fax: 616.785.1940  
e-mail: gommba@aol.com  
Thank You

1. The existence of a local advocacy group representing the interests of mountain bikers on area non-motorized trails and pathways is important to my shop.  
Yes No Don't Know
2. Having a statewide mountain bike access advocate to represent the interests of mountain bikers on Michigan's non-motorized trails and pathways is important to my shop.  
Yes No Don't Know
3. The availability of maps and brochures with information detailing; trails where my customers can ride is important to my shop.  
Yes No Don't Know
4. The existence of statewide mountain bike events such as organized rides, bike festivals, and races has either directly, or, indirectly has a positive impact on my business.  
Yes No Don't Know
5. The continued growth of a nonprofit mountain bike advocacy organization in Michigan is something that I believe would have a long-term positive impact on my business.  
Yes No Don't Know
6. Other:



## Poto Land Sale Blocked - 25 miles of trail remain intact...

by Dwain Abramowski  
(Article Written with help  
from Jason Aric Jones)

To my knowledge Hawaii is about the only place in the U.S. where you can actually see new land being formed from the primeval ooze leaking out of the center of the earth. The fact is, the land you see before you is about all you're going to get.

Considering that fact, a recent decision in Southeast Michigan takes on new meaning. The well-known Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Pinckney Recreation Area (a.k.a. the Potawatomi Trail - Poto for short) was approached recently

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**"next time you ride the section of the Poto which would have been lost, you feel proud that because of your \$22 bucks a year donation to the MMBA and the support of this issue, you have made it possible that everyone can still ride this trail."**

---

and asked to consider selling off a portion of land (about 150 acres) to the University of Michigan. This piece of DNR property (about 150 acres) bordered a piece of University property that is used for forest research and closed to the public. The reasons for the University's interest in the additional piece of land were not all that clear, but with forest lands in Southern Michigan being scarce the reasons for keeping the land open to the public were clear.

The proposal before the DNR Natural Resources Commission was to sell a significant block of the Recreation Area to U of M for cash and two small, unusable tracts of land. To make a long story somewhat shorter, the Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA) went on record as opposed to the deal. The acreage that was in the proposal was the backdrop to about 2 miles of classic forest trail, part of the almost 25 miles of trail known as the Poto-loop at the DNR Pinckney Recreation Area. Southeastern Michigan is a heavily populated area and open land is becoming more scarce by the minute. According to the DNR's own estimates, hundreds of acres of "open" land are lost to commercial development every day in Michigan. In fact, 150 acres of wooded, hilly forest land may not exist outside of DNR or other publicly held properties in Southern Michigan.

In the end, through the committed and persistent attention of the MMBA President and Potawatomi Chapter member Jason Aric Jones, the sale has been tabled. Jason appeared before the DNR-Natural Resources Commission several times. He started a letter writing campaign and helped secure the support of the Michigan United Conservation Club (MUCC - a coalition of hunters other outdoor enthusiasts) to successfully block the proposal.

The DNR will submit a new proposal to the University. The new proposal will be to sell the same block of land

ONLY IF the University can replace the land sold with land of the same market value to be added to the Pinckney Recreation Area. In other words...a pure exchange of land for land with equal market value. No "cash for land" deal.

In addition, the University will have to fund the construction of an MMBA approved trail loop to replace the section of trail lost if this exchange were to occur. According to Jason, "There is currently no indication if the University will even agree to this new proposal. However, I will continue to monitor the situation to ensure that the interests of trail users are kept in mind."

Jason has gone on record as saying, "I want to thank all of you who wrote to the DNR on this issue. **YOU WERE THE DIFFERENCE!** Let this serve as a reminder regarding the power of numbers, as well as, the power of the pen." It is Jason's hope that the, "next time you ride the section of the Poto which would have been lost, you feel proud that because of your \$22 bucks a year donation to the MMBA and the support of this issue, you have made it possible that everyone can still ride this trail."



Due to Jason Aric Jones and the MMBA's hard work, this rider will have a chance to enjoy the "complete" classic Poto trail someday.  
(Photo By Lisa Lazaroff)



# Stuff You Need To Know...

## MMBA Addresses:

General Membership  
4217 Highland Rd. #268  
Waterford, MI 48328-2165

## Bent Rim Bugle/Editorial

Executive Director's Office  
P.O. Box 29 Belmont, MI 49306

## Phone Numbers:

General MMBA/Executive Director  
Bent Rim Bugle

(616) 785-0120/fax (616) 785-1940

## CHAPTER PRESIDENTS/ MMBA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MID-MICHIGAN: Sandra Davison (517) 487-8892  
POTAWATOMI: Emil Sims (313) 663-3113  
SOUTHEAST: Todd Scott-(248) 288-3753  
PONTIAC LAKE: T & K. Collins (248) 682-6558  
WESTERN MICH: Paul Smith (616) 866-8583  
NORTHERN MICH: Dennis Bean-Larson  
(616) 263-7383

HOLLY/FLINT: Kirk Costello (810) 634-4091  
SOUTHWEST: Mike Needham (616) 731-4078  
NORTHEAST: Contact Todd Dewell (517) 345-4523  
UPPER PENINSULA: Don Watson (906) 482-3382

**MMBA Chairperson:** Lisa Lazaroff

## MMBA Championship

## Points Series Chair:

Gordon Allen (616) 731-4844

## MEMBERSHIP:

Robin Scurr (810) 363-6089

**COMPUTERS:** <http://www.mmmba.org>  
[gommmba@aol.com](mailto:gommmba@aol.com)

## Mid-MI/Gen., State-Wide Trail Info:

Dennis Hansen (517) 349-4683

## WHAT THE MMBA NEEDS TO SERVE YOU BETTER:

Your help at the Chapter level. Call your chapter president today and you can help make mountain biking better for you and everyone tomorrow!



## Next Bent Rim Bugle (BRB) Deadline is January 30

*Classified ads in BRB Free to MMBA Members: Send written info before deadline to Executive Director. Ad rates for member and non-member shops/industry contact the Executive Director*  
**616-785-0120/fax 616-785-1940**  
**e-mail: [gommmba@aol.com](mailto:gommmba@aol.com).**

## To Get:

- Advertising Rates for the BRB call 616.785.0120
- Ad space will soon be available for the MMBA web site contact [cadallen@mindspring.com](mailto:cadallen@mindspring.com) / mmmba web-site: [www.mmmba.org](http://www.mmmba.org)

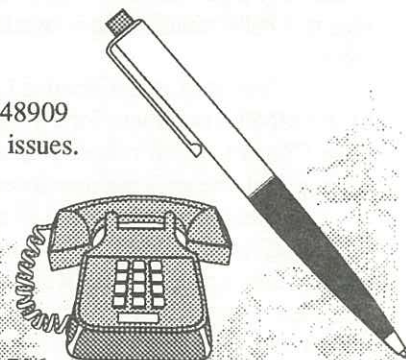
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P.O. Box 30013, Lansing MI 48909  
517.335.7858 to comment on issues.

U.S. Senator Carl Levin  
459 Russell

Senate Office Building,  
Washington DC 20515  
202.224.6221

U.S. Spencer Abraham  
110 Michigan Ave. NW Suite 716  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
616.456.2592



## Achievements/Foundational History of the MMBA

- \*Recent recipient of one of the Mt. Biking Hero awards given by IMBA (Sept. 97)
- \*One of two recipients of a Subaru Trails Automobile (97)
- \*Model Program Award (93)
- \*MMBA Speaker Represented at IMBA's National Mountain Bike Advocacy Summit in Arizona (95)
- \*Recently MMBA invited to participate in the IMBA Nat. Rec. & Access Summit (Nov. 97)
- \*MMBA has received numerous recognitions in National Publications as being a leading advocacy group (1990-97)
- \*Involved in Mountain Biking advocacy since 1989 (Executive Director since 1987)
- \*MMBA Executive Director recently nominated to the Mountain Biking Hall Of Fame



(riding fence cont. from pg. 25)

night. And finally a small compass is necessary because no matter how well you know an area, a heavy fog or a snow blizzard will change your landmarks and surroundings and you can easily get lost. I know because both of these happened to me.

Why would you need this? If you get hurt during this time of year and you are riding alone or if you come across another injured trail user - you have less than 20 minutes to get some protection or back to your car. If you can still ride, then no problems, but if you can't and must walk, wait for help or go get help for someone else - it will take longer than twenty minutes and possibly could be all night. This is enough time for the start of serious exposure problems.

Conditions of the type mentioned will make that little space blanket important as well as a fire, because a fire is one of the best survival tools. A campfire show your location, provides warmth, light and is a sedative. There are three rules for a winter fire: 1. Don't build it on the snow, it will put itself out when the snow melts. Scrape away the snow first. 2. Gather enough firewood for an hour fire first, then light it. A lot of people start a fire and then after 5 minutes realize that there is nothing to keep it going. 3. You need to start small and build up from there. You cannot get a 3" log to burn unless you have gasoline or other fuel. Start with little twigs on your fire starter and pile pencil-sized branches and the a "few", two or three 1/2 inch diameter pieces on that. Then light the fire, shielding the flame from the wind with your body. Carefully add other larger sticks and wood until it gets a good base of coals going.

Hopefully nobody has to use their survival kit but it is insurance that could save a persons life or at least protect them from losing some flingers or toes to frostbite until help is available or the person is able to get out of the woods.

The staff at the Pontiac Lake Recreation Area would like to thank all of the MMBA members for a good year, for the newly reorganized Pontiac Lake Chapter, and for those who assisted on the various park cleanup projects - along with the trail maintenance projects.

The park staff would like to wish everybody a safe and happy new year. And for those who park in the church's or shopping mall lot, the new motor vehicle permit are out and if you ask Santa Clause for one (as they make excellent gifts) he just may give you one. This will allow you to join the rest of the riders in the parks lots and you will not have to look guilty when you pedal by the entrance booth or see the rangers passing you out on the roads and trails. You will now be able to sleep comfortably at night and be a happier person, it will save your marriage (no women likes a cheapskate), and with your new relaxed attitude (most of these riders act anal retentive when sneaking in the park) it may mean a job promotion or at least a savings because will not need laxatives anymore (and keep your HMO happy too!). All for just \$20, such a deal!

**Michigan Mountain Biking Association**  
**4217 Highland Rd. #268**  
**Waterford, MI 48328-2165**

Address Correction Requested

"...it's something unpredictable  
In the end it turns out right  
I hope you have  
the time of your life..."  
Greenday

## THE CLASSIFIED SECTION

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